

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FUNDS FOR SEVIER COUNTY MULTI-EVENTS CENTER AND NEW SENIOR CENTER IN WEST JORDAN AMONG UTAH PROJECTS APPROVED WITH SENATE PASSAGE OF SPENDING BILL

Ogden, Sandy and University of Utah also to receive funds

WASHINGTON, D.C. – At the request of Sen. Bob Bennett, over \$7 million for projects throughout the state of Utah, including a new multi-events center in Sevier County, were approved as part of legislation passed today by the U.S. Senate.

"I commend the citizens of Sevier County for their impressive commitment to the future of their community," Bennett said, noting that Sevier citizens already have secured \$19 million from private and local funds for the construction of a new multi-events center in the county. "The \$1 million today approved by the Senate for this project tops off their efforts. Without question, this new events center will increase the cultural and economic opportunities in this part of our state."

The Sevier County Multi-Events Center will seat 5,000 people and host numerous activities. An education area of the Center will contain 12 classrooms, including two science laboratories, and an 800-seat theater will provide college and high school students a venue for performing arts productions.

The VA, HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2002 also includes the following Utah projects requested by Bennett, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- **\$800,000 for Senior Citizens Center in West Jordan, Utah**

Bennett notes the current Senior Citizens Center in West Jordan is limited in space and in services creating a need for redevelopment and expansion. The center is located in a two-story converted church building, of which many seniors cannot access the top floor because the building does not meet ADA standards.

- **\$2,500,000 for the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP)**

SCERP is a multi-university directed research program that consists of a pool of five U.S. and four Mexican universities, including the University of Utah, conducting water and air research along the U.S./Mexico border.

- **\$1,000,000 for Ogden, Utah completing final phase of sewer improvements**

Addressing water and sewer needs at the newly acquired Defense Depot in Ogden City, funding has been secured to bring its infrastructure up to current standards. As a result, it is anticipated that the City of Ogden will be better prepared to manage the actual construction workload associated with this project.

- **\$1,000,000 for Sandy, Utah water and sewer infrastructure improvements**

In an effort to meet water and sewer infrastructure needs of Sandy, one of Utah's fastest growing cities, the funding will be helpful to regulate the quality of storm water that is discharged into the Jordan River.

- **\$700,000 for Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District**

Associated with an ongoing effort to clean-up groundwater near the Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation facility, funds will be used to develop and construct a groundwater extraction and treatment project.

- **\$400,000 for Tooele City, Utah for the Middle Canyon Creek Irrigation project**

Tooele City exists within a closed watershed and is currently using every drop of water at its disposal for both culinary and secondary water needs. This project will allow the city to capture water from Middle Canyon Creek to be used for irrigation purposes in order to free up additional culinary water.

- **\$250,000 for the Envision Utah project**

Funding will help finalize the Envision Utah project, which is currently involved in looking at smart growth scenarios for Utah's future, specifically targeting the Wasatch Front.

The bill now goes to conference with the House version to reconcile differences between the two measures.

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